

**Opening Statement of the Honorable Fred Upton  
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology  
Markup of the FCC Consolidated Reporting Act  
February 4, 2015**

*(As Prepared for Delivery)*

One of this committee's longstanding priorities is to modernize government for the innovation era – to encourage greater efficiency and accountability. This can make a real difference in people's lives, especially in the communications and technology sector where the United States is a global leader in innovation, connectivity, and economic growth.

The FCC Consolidated Reporting Act embodies the kind of smart reforms that reduce duplication in the federal government while producing better results. This bill consolidates eight separate congressionally mandated reports on the communications industry into a single comprehensive report. This streamlined report will give us important information about competition among technology platforms and the deployment of communications technologies to unserved communities. It will also help us to eliminate regulatory barriers and empower small businesses. Finally, the bill ensures that legacy regulations and reports are not hampering investment and innovation, and that industry and consumers have a full, realistic picture of the state of the communications marketplace.

The FCC Consolidated Reporting Act has earned broad bipartisan support and was overwhelmingly approved by each of last two congresses. Without a single vote against this bill in the past, it is my hope that the third time is the charm and we will see it signed into law by the president as soon as possible. Let's get it done.

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